

APPROPRIATION FOR CLERICAL FORCE, BUREAU OF
STATISTICS.

LETTER

FROM

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

A communication from the Secretary of State submitting an estimate of appropriation for the clerical force in the Bureau of Statistics for the remainder of the current fiscal year and for the fiscal year 1897.

JANUARY 16, 1896.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *January 15, 1896.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of Congress, a communication from the Secretary of State, of the 13th instant, submitting an estimate of appropriation for the clerical force in the Bureau of Statistics, Department of State, for the remainder of the current fiscal year and for the fiscal year 1897, as follows:

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896 (six months).....	\$1,980
For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897.....	3,960

Respectfully, yours,

S. WIKE, *Acting Secretary.*

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, January 13, 1896.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith two items additional to the estimates of appropriations previously transmitted.

These items are made necessary by the discovery that a practice which has obtained of paying employees of the Bureau of Statistics of this Department from the annual appropriation for the preparation, printing, publication, and distribution of the consular and other commercial reports, and which was supposed to be warranted by the language of the appropriation, is in conflict with the act of August 5, 1882 (sec. 4, 22 Stat. L., 255), which prohibits the employment of persons by

any Department, "except only at such rates and in such numbers, respectively, as may be specifically appropriated by Congress for such clerical and other personal services for each fiscal year." In order that this practice may be discontinued without embarrassment to the important work of editing, publishing, and distributing the consular reports, and of compiling the annual volume, Commercial Relations, one of the items is submitted for insertion in the deficiency act for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, in order that it may be immediately available, and the other in the regular appropriation for salaries of the Department of State in the act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897.

As the work required is largely of a technical and special character and analogous in these respects to the work of the office of Naval Records of the Rebellion, I have adopted substantially the language of the appropriation act for that office (see Stat. Fifty-third Congress, third session, chap. 177, p. 791), in order that persons may be selected "by reason of special aptitude for the work."

The increase in the amount of salaries heretofore paid is \$840, this amount being added in order to secure the services of an additional statistician, made requisite by the recent growth in the work of compiling the consular and other commercial reports, and to obtain greater efficiency in the distribution of them.

Inclosing a draft of the items mentioned,

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

RICHARD OLNEY,
Secretary of State.

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Items.

I.

[To be inserted in the act making appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, etc., under Department of State.]

Bureau of Statistics—For the following employees, to be selected by the Secretary of State by reason of special aptitude for the work of compiling and distributing consular and other commercial reports, viz, one clerk, at the rate of \$1,400 per annum; one clerk, at the rate of \$1,000 per annum; one clerk, at the rate of \$900 per annum, and one laborer, at the rate of \$660 per annum; in all, \$1,980.

II.

[To be inserted in act making appropriations for legislative, executive, and judicial expenses for fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, under Department of State.]

For services of employees of the Bureau of Statistics, to be selected by the Secretary of State by reason of special aptitude for the work of compiling and distributing consular and other commercial reports, viz, one clerk at a salary of \$1,400; one clerk, at a salary of \$1,000; one clerk, at a salary of \$900, and one laborer, at a salary of \$660; in all, \$3,960.